In re Application of: Haberland, et al.

Application No. 09/580,721

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thorough review and the Examiner's indication that Claims 4, 10-12, and 14-17 are allowed. Applicant also appreciates the Examiner's indication that Claims 2, 3, 8, and 9 contain patentable subject matter which would be allowable if rewritten to contain the elements of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended without prejudice, and without adding new matter, Claim 1 to include the limitations of Claim 2 and Claim 7 to include the limitations of Claim 8. Claims 2 and 8 were canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1 and 7 are now in condition for allowance pursuant to the Examiner's suggestions.

Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 3, 5, and 6 are also in condition for allowance because they are all dependent from amended Claim 1. Applicant also respectfully submits that Claims 9 and 13 are also in condition for allowance because they depend from amended Claim 7.

In re Application of: Haberland, et al. Application No. 09/580,721

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 30, 2006

Christopher D. Northcutt, Reg. No. 55,908

BRACEWELL & GIULIANI LLP

P.O. Box 61389

Houston, Texas 77208-1389

Direct:

713/221-1533

Direct Fax:

713/437-5324

and

Jeffrey S. Whittle

Reg. No. 36,382

BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 61389

Houston, Texas 77208-1389

Telephone: (713) 221-1185

Pacsimile (713) 221-2141

Attorneys for Applicant

1809588.2